

REMARKS

Claim 1 as amended is generally claim 14 and claim 12, from which claim 14 depended, which the Examiner has indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, claim 1 and dependent claims 3, 4-11, 13, and 15-17, which are dependent from claim 1, are allowable.

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for allowing claim 24 and finding allowable subject matter in claim 14.

Claims 1, 3, 13, 18, and 21 are amended, claims 12, 14, 22 and 23 are canceled, and claims 1, 3-11, 13, 15-21 and 24 are pending in the present application. The claims have been amended to place the present application in condition for allowance.

Applicant is of the view that the present claims are patentable over the art and will pursue these claims in the appropriate divisional or continuation and therefore does not acquiesce in the basis for the rejection. The present application is amended to accept the allowed claims as indicated and remarks and language to distinguish the present claims will be provided in the continuation or divisional.

Claim 18 is amended to incorporate the allowable features of the carrier bar, and as amended, recites, "wherein protecting the at least one rotor blade includes extending a carrier bar of the receiving means perpendicularly with respect to the carrier element and varying a cross-section of the carrier bar over at least one region." Accordingly, claim 18 and dependent claims 19-21, which are dependent therefrom, are allowable.

Claim 24 was previously allowed, and thus no amendments are made to this claim.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/517,133
Reply to Office Action dated June 21, 2007

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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